

# Wayne Allard

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## **SENATOR ALLARD SECURES ANIMAS-LA PLATA FUNDING**

### ***\$60 million provided for project***

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado), member of the Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee, on Tuesday announced that he has secured \$60 million for the Animas-La Plata project in Southwestern Colorado in the FY 2006 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The funding is to be provided through the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

“I am proud to have obtained the funding to keep work going on this critical project, one extremely important to Southwest Colorado,” Senator Allard said. “This project allows us to finally resolve the water-rights issues raised by the Colorado Ute tribes, without penalizing existing users, and provide a healthy water future for the region.”

The Animas-La Plata project was established as part of the Indian Self-Determination and Settlement Act of 2000. The project is in the midst of a multi-year construction schedule, and the \$60 million in funding is necessary to continue the project on schedule. The ongoing work includes the construction of a pumping station, construction of the Ridges Basin Dam, the implementation of wetlands and fish mitigation programs, and the relocation of a natural gas pipeline.

“This project was started and pushed forward by Senator Ben Campbell, and is dear to his heart. I am pleased that we will be able to continue his hard work on it, and see it through to completion,” Senator Allard said.

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